UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MAINE

ALLIANCE OF AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS,)
Plaintiff)
v.) Civ. No. 02-149-B-W
MARTHA KIRKPATRICK,)
Defendant)

ORDER AFFIRMING THE RECOMMENDED DECISION OF THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE

On July 17, 2003, the United States Magistrate Judge filed with the Court her Recommended Decision on the parties' cross-motions for summary judgment, recommending that the Court deny the Plaintiff's Motion and grant the Defendant's Motion. On July 31, 2003, the Plaintiff filed its Objection to the Recommended Decision and a Motion Oral Argument on the Objection. On August 18, 2003, the Defendant and the <u>amici curiae</u> parties each filed a separate Response to the Objection and, on August 20, 2003, the Defendant and the <u>amici curiae</u> parties filed a joint opposition to the Plaintiff's Motion for Oral Arguments. The Plaintiff filed its reply to the responses on August 26, 2003.

The Plaintiffs Motion for Oral Argument is DENIED. The parties' comprehensive memoranda provide an ample basis upon which to decide the Objection.

I have reviewed and considered the Magistrate Judge's Recommended Decision, together with the entire record; I have made a <u>de novo</u> determination of all matters adjudicated by the Magistrate Judge's Recommended Decision; and I concur with the recommendations of the

United States Magistrate Judge for the reasons set forth in her Recommended Decision, and determine that no further proceeding is necessary. 1, 2

- 1. It is <u>ORDERED</u> that the Plaintiff's Motion for Oral Arguments is <u>DENIED</u>;
- 2. It is further <u>ORDERED</u> that the Recommended Decision of the Magistrate Judge is <u>AFFIRMED</u>; and,
- 3. It is further <u>ORDERED</u> that the Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment is <u>DENIED</u> and the Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment is <u>GRANTED</u>.

/s/ John A. Woodcock, Jr. JOHN A. WOODCOCK, JR. United States District Judge

Dated this 17th day of February, 2004.

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¹ The Court has carefully reviewed those portions of the Recommended Decision that the Plaintiff argues contain either omissions of its statements of material facts or erroneous restatements of its statement of material facts. The Court concludes the alleged discrepancies are either immaterial or erroneous.

² The Magistrate Judge eschewed legislative history in favor of the plain language of the statute and instructed the Plaintiff, to the extent that it disagreed with her decision, to explain the materiality of such legislative history in its Objection to this Court. The Plaintiff has shown neither ambiguity in the language of the statute nor the materiality of the legislative history to the outcome of the case.

Plaintiff

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